

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W
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R 020830Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6226

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6536

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, US, OVIP, (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS

REF: SEOUL 6287

1. MOFA HAS INFORMED US ROKG HAS ALL BUT DECIDED ON CHOSUN HOTEL TO HOUSE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD AND THEIR PARTY.

2. ACCORDING TO ACTING FONMIN LHO, CHOSUN IS FAVORED BECAUSE OF ITS CENTRAL LOCATION AND FACT THAT ALL OF PARTY CAN BE COMFORTABLY HANDLED THERE. LHO ALSO INDICATED THAT FOR SECURITY REASONS, ROKG IS CONSIDERING RENTING THE ENTIRE HOTEL FOR THE PERIOD OF THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT CHOSUN HOTEL WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT LOCATION FOR PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD AND THEIR PARTY. IT IS A MODERN, FIRST-CLASS HOTEL CLOSE TO THE BLUE HOUSE, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, EMBASSY AND OTHER POINTS WHICH WOULD BE ON PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY.

4. AS NOTED REFTTEL OTHER FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE FOR PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD, AND EMBASSY COMPOUND FOR RANKING MEMBERS OF PARTY. (OTHER MEMBERS OF STAFF WOULD BE IN CHOSUN HOTEL.)

5. EXPECT ROKG TO REACH FINAL DECISION SOON ON WHERE IT WILL PROPOSE THAT PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD STAY.

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CONSEQUENTLY, WOULD RECOMMEND EARLY VISIT BY SECRET SERVICE

REPS TO ASSESS SECURITY FACTORS SO THAT WE WILL BE ABLE
TO REACT PROMPTLY TO KOREAN PROPOSAL.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SEOUL06536
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740278-0692
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741079/aaaacppz.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: SEOUL 6287
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <10 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, KS, US, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005